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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Meals on Wheels and the City of London Celebrate New Partnership

Residents of East London may not notice a change in their Meals on Wheels delivery, a vital service which helps maintain independent living, but volunteers and staff notice the positive changes in the new operating location. Meals on Wheels and the City of London are pleased to announce a new partnership that combines a valuable community service with a safe and accessible location.

Meals on Wheels London is a not-for-profit organization that offers services to people desiring to live full lives in their own homes, despite the challenges of age or disability. In the spring of 2006 the City of London was asked if there was capacity within one of its facilities in the east to accommodate a hub site for the agency. Boyle Community Centre was identified as a location to support the east area. In early December 2006, Boyle Community Centre opened as a new site.

"As a caring and compassionate community, London strives to ensure a high quality of life for citizens of all ages," says Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best. "And, this creative sharing of resources with Meals on Wheels London is a very practical way to support this important goal and continue to strengthen our community vitality."

The new hub site operates Monday to Friday, 6:00 am - 1:15 pm and utilizes the kitchen area and storage space on the first floor of the community centre. The space is used for the purpose of receiving prepared food; heating and packaging prepared food; and distributing prepared food to volunteer drivers.

"The City has been fantastic in helping us locate and develop the new location," says Laurel Hevenor-Vallance, Executive Director of Meal on Wheels London. "Wonderful partnerships like this enable not-for-profit organizations to continue the work they do in local communities."